

and balanced method of initial approval and operational evaluation.

Please work to make this a bi-partisan effort as political preference has absolutely nothing to do with what is needed. Respectfully submitted.

LESLIE WANNALL,  
*Huntington Beach, California.*

As a result of the recent opening of a detox sober living home in my neighborhood, my family has experienced many negative consequences. Last week, my teenage son heard noises outside his bedroom window and discovered two members of the sober living home were cooking heroin on the back of his car, shooting up and attempting to sell heroin. The amount of traffic on our street from people cruising by the home all night long keeps our family up at night. Many nights there are helicopters overhead for several hours, which also affects our sleep. In addition, this home has two pit bulls that have been outside off leash, barking angrily at all who walk by. These dogs are left outside in the backyard and bark all night. We have seen camera footage of members of this home breaking into my neighbors' homes. This particular home, [REDACTED], is run by an ex-convict as a 10-bed facility when the law states 6 beds is the maximum allowed in a residential area. Down the street is a middle school. It is unacceptable and unsafe to have this type of home in our neighborhood. Several neighbors are choosing to move but we shouldn't have to move to maintain our safety and quality of life. I implore you to please take this matter seriously. In addition, if people are truly seeking to detox from drugs and alcohol, this is not a suitable environment to support sobriety.

Thank you for your consideration,  
SHELLEY BUKER,  
*Huntington Beach, California.*

#### HONORING JEREMIAH DAVID THORNTON, JR.

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 12, 2018*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jeremiah Thornton, Jr. Jeremiah is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 333, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jeremiah has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jeremiah has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jeremiah has become a Fire Builder in the tribe Mic-o-Say. Jeremiah has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Jeremiah refurbished a house in Parkville that is used during the Christmas season for Santa to meet with children.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jeremiah for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### HONORING THE SERVICE OF VIRGIL RYALS

#### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 12, 2018*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Virgil Ryals. Mr. Ryals is a Korean War veteran who served the United States of America honorably.

Virgil was born in Winters, California, and his family later relocated to Chowchilla.

After graduating from Chowchilla High, he joined the U.S. Army in January 1951. Completing his basic training at Fort Ord, Virgil was assigned to a unit with the 6th Army. In the summer of 1951, he sojourned with his Army companions to Pusan, South Korea where he joined the 1st Cavalry Division. Shortly afterward he was assigned to Company C of the 7th Cavalry, the infamous "Garry Owen" regiment once led by George Armstrong Custer.

Virgil was assigned to a radio section of Headquarters Company where he received and transmitted vitally important intelligence to embattled Army units. Virgil's hard work and quick learning was quickly noticed by his superiors, and Virgil was soon promoted to head the section. In October 1951, Virgil's communicators kept all units in contact when a Chinese counterattack threatened to overrun the regiment.

Virgil served on occupation duty in Japan until December 1952, when he returned home on leave to visit his family. At the end of his leave, Virgil and his family were involved in a tragic car accident which claimed the life of both his parents. Virgil, suffering from two broken legs, a broken elbow and numerous other injuries, was not expected to live. But, for the next eleven months, Virgil underwent several procedures at Letterman's Hospital where he fought to recover.

In November 1953, Corporal Virgil Ryals was honorably discharged from the United States Army. For his service, he was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, the Army of Occupation Medal (Japan), the Korean Service Medal with three Bronze Stars, the United Nations Service Medal, and the Combat Infantryman's Badge.

Virgil worked as a dairyman and farmer until 1959 when he accepted a position at the Chowchilla Post Office, where he worked for thirty-one years. Mention the name of Virgil Ryals to virtually anyone in Chowchilla and they will know the congenial, chatty, helpful postal worker who helped generations of Chowchillans.

His wife, Eva, passed away in 1999. They raised two beautiful children and have one grandchild. Virgil is a Life Member of Chowchilla VFW Post 9896, American Legion Post 148, and a member of St. Columba Church.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the service of Virgil Ryals for his dedication to his family and his country.

#### HONORING 2018 BARROW COUNTY REACH RECIPIENTS

#### HON. JODY B. HICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 12, 2018*

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Dylan Ceraso, Jeanna Presley, Alejandro Tovar-Villagomez, and Morgan Watkins for being selected as 2018 REACH Scholars for Barrow County, Georgia.

Standing for "Realizing Educational Achievement Can Happen," this needs-based mentorship and college scholarship program provides opportunity for academically-promising students from their eighth grade year through high school. In addition to remaining in high academic standing, students are required to meet with a mentor and maintain good attendance. Upon graduation from high school and successful completion of the program, the student is awarded a \$10,000 scholarship toward the cost of any HOPE-eligible institution in Georgia.

These REACH Georgia scholars are our future. Georgia has made a commitment to awarding those in need who demonstrate a high level of merit—an investment that will increase our workforce and grow our economy. I'm proud that we take these steps to ensure a brighter future for our children, our state, and our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I expect great things from each of these special young scholars, and on behalf of Georgia's 10th Congressional District, I offer them my congratulations and wish them continued success.

#### CELEBRATING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY PRESS

#### HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 12, 2018*

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Syracuse University Press. Located at on the edge of Syracuse University's campus, the Syracuse University Press has been imperative to the strength and academic rigor of Syracuse University.

Founded by William P. Tolley and Thomas J. Watson in 1943, the Syracuse University Press is committed to promoting diverse cultural and intellectual expression, as well as preserving the history, literature, and culture of our region. Syracuse University Press emphasizes publications on the history, culture, and people of New York State, as well as works on Irish Studies, Middle Eastern Studies, Peace Studies, Television and Popular Culture, Literature in Translation. As a recipient of the NEH/Mellon Open Book Program grant, Syracuse University Press has the unique ability to make out-of-print humanities books available again by re-creating them as free, open access e-books.

Syracuse University Press has published over 2,200 titles and sold over 3.5 million books. The pieces sold and published by Syracuse University Press are culturally diverse,

written by authors from 20 countries and translated into 25 languages. For their work, the Syracuse University Press has received numerous awards, such as the 2017 Association for Middle East Women's Studies Book Award Honorable Mention, 2017 Robert Penn Warren for Fiction, 2016 J. I. Segal Award for Translation, and the PROSE Award in the Language and Linguistics category and honorable mention for Excellence in the Humanities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in recognizing the 75th anniversary of the Syracuse University Press. Under the steady leadership of Director Alice Pfeiffer, it is my hope that the Syracuse University Press continues to provide this great service to our community and to the world for years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. MARLA GUERRA'S RETIREMENT

**HON. FILEMON VELA**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 12, 2018*

Mr. VELA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Dr. Marla M. Guerra, a dedicated educator who is retiring after 17 years of service as the superintendent of South Texas Independent School District (ISD).

Dr. Guerra's professional accomplishments are numerous and impressive. She has passionately guided South Texas ISD, continuously improving the quality of education, and earning state and national recognitions along the way. Under her leadership, South Texas ISD was recognized first in Texas, and sixth in the nation in the Niche 2018 category for "Best K-12 School Districts." Dr. Guerra was also named the 2018 Texas Association of School Boards' Regional Superintendent of the Year.

Dr. Guerra is an influential educator with a strong focus on educational growth for student development. Her work for the district has supported the expansion of both academic offerings and life-changing opportunities for students and teachers to extend learning beyond the classroom.

Prior to her role as superintendent of South Texas ISD, Dr. Guerra served as a teacher, principal, and college professor. She was also a social worker and worked alongside Child Protective Services. Dr. Guerra is a true champion for our youth, and her success has unequivocally empowered them to improve themselves and their communities.

As a leader and advocate for our children, Dr. Guerra has molded South Texas ISD into the district it is today.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. Marla M. Guerra for her more than 40 years of public service for our children and schools.

HONORING RUTHIE'S RUN ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 12, 2018*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Ruthie's Run on its 50th Anniversary.

A visit to Lake Placid, New York, is not complete without a stop at Ruthie's Run, the iconic sportswear and skiwear shop. Ruthie's Run has offered a wide variety of skiing goods since Ruth Prime purchased Thaire's Ski Shop in 1968 and renamed it after a slope on Aspen Mountain in Colorado.

In 1984, Cathy and Wayne Johnston left their jobs in the corporate world and bought Ruthie's Run to make their own mark in the community, and they have maintained quality service ever since. Ruthie's Run offers a selection for customers looking for a wide variety of price range and style. With Cathy's expertise to solve any wardrobe issue, customers never leave Ruthie's unsatisfied.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I want to congratulate Ruthie's Run on its 50th anniversary. Ruthie's is a staple in the Lake Placid community, and I look forward to watching the Johnstons continue its legacy in the years to come.

CONGRATULATING THE PUERTO RICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

**HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 12, 2018*

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations to the Puerto Rican Bar Association, as it celebrates its 40th Year Anniversary Scholarship Fund Gala on October 12, 2018.

The Puerto Rican Bar Association (PRBA) was founded in 1957. It is the largest Latino bar association in New York State and offers personal and professional support to Puerto Rican and Latino attorneys. The PRBA Scholarship Fund raises money to award scholarships to deserving law students. Founded in 1978 by Justice Donald Grajales, himself a past president of the PRBA, it has provided over \$500,000,000 to law students based on scholastic achievement, community involvement and financial need.

The lawyers who make up PRBA have a strong dedication to public service and to preserving the civil and political rights of Puerto Ricans and Latinos. This has been an extraordinary year in which the PRBA has been presente! I am proud of all the members who volunteered and dedicated time and resources to help the victims of Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico, the detained children and hardworking families in New York City.

One thing is for certain, the members of PRBA have an unwavering commitment to the legal profession, to each other and to the people they serve. I want to especially thank Carmen Pacheco, Esq., for her dedication and leadership during her term as President and congratulate Honorable Wilma Guzman, the first judge ever elected President of the Puerto Rican Bar Association. I am confident that her experience, vision and leadership will propel the association to new heights.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Puerto Rican Bar Association and the Puerto Rican Bar Scholarship Fund on this special 40th year anniversary. I wish the Puerto Rican Bar Association continued success in many more years of service.

RECOGNIZING THE SOUTH HALL ROTARY CLUB

**HON. DOUG COLLINS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 12, 2018*

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the South Hall Rotary Club for raising over \$8,000 for charities in Northeast Georgia.

Rotary International is a service organization whose purpose is to bring together business and professional leaders to provide humanitarian services, advance goodwill, and promote peace around the world.

During their recent Awesome 80s 5K run, the South Hall Rotary Club raised more than \$8,000 to support the Relay for Life Hall County, the University of North Georgia Food Pantry, and their annual Foster Kids of Hall County Christmas Party. More than one hundred runners participated in the charitable event. Many of the participants celebrated by wearing costumes, neon shorts and leggings, wild colorful hairstyles, big glasses, and headbands on race day. Uniformly, however, the participants reflected the generous spirit of Northeast Georgia, and a strong commitment to serving their community.

In past races, the South Hall Rotary Club has helped raise funds to support new dental equipment for Good News Clinic, Boys & Girls Club, and for a new computer lab at the Comp-pass Center.

I visited with President Renee Carden and the South Hall Rotary Club this August and was inspired by their dedication and giving spirit. I thank the South Hall Rotary Club for their philanthropic efforts and their work to unite the community for good.

HONORING MICHAEL GUERRA-YORK

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 12, 2018*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Michael Guerra-York. Michael is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 247, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Michael has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Michael has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Michael has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Michael Guerra-York for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.